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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each of which is enclosed.

The WO 94/29787 reference corresponds to the JP 8-511637 reference.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

June 28, 2001

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